

EOPS PROGRAMS DIVISION INFORMATION

November 2000

We welcome your comments and suggestions regarding this electronic newsletter. Please e-mail Diana Brensilber at: Diana.Brensilber@state.ma.us.

Announcements

State Community Policing Grant Program On October 25, 2000, Secretary of Public Safety Jane Perlov announced the awards for the FY01 State Community Policing Grant Program. A total of \$20,949,500 was awarded to Chiefs of Police in 343 cities and towns throughout the Commonwealth, enabling police departments to work with their respective communities to devise strategies which address crime, fear of crime, and factors which detract from overall quality of life. This represents an increase of \$489,500 in funding and an additional four communities participating over last year, and a 97% rate of participation statewide. Since the inception of the program in State FY94, over \$98.8 million in grant funds have been awarded to police departments. The resources provided through this program have enabled police departments to make substantive investments in training, technology, infrastructure, and community-based initiatives resulting in a positive impact upon communities throughout the Commonwealth.

State Bulletproof Vest Reimbursement Program The Massachusetts State Legislature appropriated funding under Chapter 236, Section 2E, Acts of 2000 (State Bulletproof Vest Reimbursement Program), providing for 50 percent reimbursement for the cost of bulletproof vests purchased on or after July 1, 2000. Reimbursements under this program are contingent upon participation in the Bureau of Justice Assistance Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998. Announcements and program guidelines were sent to each local police department on November 7, 2000. For further information, please contact Marjorie Browne, Program Coordinator, at (617) 727-6300 x25335 or via e-mail at marjorie.browne@eps.state.ma.us or Detective Paul Jarosiewicz, Director of Law Enforcement Programs, at (617) 727-6300 x25313 or via e-mail at paul.jarosiewicz@eps.state.ma.us. Information on the State Bulletproof Vest Reimbursement Program is also available at <http://www.state.ma.us/ccj>. For further information regarding the federal Bulletproof Partnership Program, please refer to <http://vests.ojp.gov> or call 1-800-421-6770.

The New England Narcotic Enforcement Officers' Association, in conjunction with the New England Field Division of the Drug Enforcement Administration and the New England State Police Information Network, will present its Fall Training Conference, **"What Police, Prosecutors and School Officials Should Know About Designer Drugs,"** on Monday, November 27th at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel and Trade Center in Marlborough, Massachusetts. This symposium will provide law enforcement, prosecutorial, and educational professionals with the latest information regarding designer drugs and the challenges they present to public safety in New England. The Executive Office of Public Safety is co-sponsoring this event. Further information and registration information is available at <http://www.newenglandneoa.org>

NEW STATEWIDE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE SafeLink (1-877-785-2020)

SafeLink is the first Massachusetts statewide domestic violence toll-free hotline and is operated by Casa Myrna Vazquez, Inc. in Boston. Trained advocates answer SafeLink 24 hours a day in English, Spanish, and TTY **(1-877-521-2601)**. It also has the capacity to provide multilingual translation in more than 140 languages. SafeLink provides an integrated and seamless response to victims of domestic violence through its use of technology and its multilingual capacity.

SafeLink provides the following services:

- Immediate crisis intervention
- Safety planning
- Support for victims
- Information and referrals
- Access to emergency shelter by linking the caller to programs across the state while remaining connected to the caller
- Support for family members, friends, and professionals who are concerned about a victim of domestic violence

Please direct any questions to Lucia Berman-Rossi, SafeLink Coordinator, at 617-521-0149 or Debra Robbin, Director of Education and Public Affairs, at 617-521-0133.

Bullying Prevention Program (BPP) The six selected elementary schools in the communities of Boston, Lynn, Malden, Mansfield, Raynham, and Reading, awarded BPP funds from EOPS, recently participated in an EOPS-sponsored training provided by BPP experts, Dr. Susan Limber of Clemson University, and Nancy Mullin-Rindler of Wellesley College. The trainings were conducted from November 6th to November 14th, and highlighted the BPP model, bullying effects, classroom/school-wide strategies, and each site's plan to address bullying. The sites will now train their staff and kick-off the program in January 2001. This scientifically proven effective program has generated local and national interest, and was highlighted on FOX 25's 10:00 news on Wednesday, November 8, 2000.

Funding

From the State. . . .

Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Program In late November, the Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPS) in collaboration with the Department of Fire Services will make available to fire departments and fire districts, applications for equipment purchases under the \$10 million Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant. The grant consists of two phases. The first phase provides funds for the purchase of a thermal imaging camera. The second phase provides funds for the purchase of equipment such as: personal protective clothing, personal protective equipment, and rehab equipment from a predetermined list. All equipment purchased must meet the applicable requirements of the National Fire Protection Association's standard, most current edition. Applications will be due to the EOPS by Wednesday, December 27, 2000. If you require additional information regarding this grant opportunity, please call Executive Director, Michael O'Toole at (617) 727-6300.

From the Federal Government. . . .

Office of Research and Evaluation 2001 Solicitation for Investigator-Initiated Research

<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/sl000442.pdf>

NIJ is soliciting an open invitation to researchers to submit proposals to conduct research on a wide spectrum of areas that will assist in shaping public policies to control crime and enhance justice.

Application Deadline: Letter of intent is due December 17, 2000. Application is due January 17, 2001.

Eligibility Requirements: Researchers from all disciplines.

Data Resources Program: Funding for the Analysis of Existing Data <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/sl000437.pdf>

NIJ requests proposals to conduct original research using data from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data. Topic areas include: sentencing; adjudication; corrections; violence against women and family violence; drugs and crime; violence, including examination of the correlates of violent criminal behavior; and policing.

Application Deadline: January 25, and May 25, 2001.

Eligibility Requirements: Researchers from all disciplines who are interested in basic research, and/or addressing topical criminal justice practice or policy concerns through the exploration and analysis of archived data are encouraged to apply.

Maximum Award Amount: \$35,000

Grant Period: 1 year

Examining Minority Trust and Confidence in the Police <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/sl000448.pdf>

NIJ is requesting applications for research designed to examine the relationship between police and minority communities. Support will be given to research projects that demonstrate the potential to make policy and programmatic recommendations regarding this topic, as well as evaluations of programs that are designed to reduce the incidence of use of force and incivilities by law enforcement agents against minorities.

Application Deadline: Non-binding letter of intent due January 15, 2001. Application due February 15, 2001.

Maximum Award Amount: Awards totaling \$1 million will be made available for this solicitation.

Number of Awards Made: 6

Grant Period: Maximum of 2 years

From Private Foundations. . . .

General Mills Foundation <http://www.generalmills.com/explore/community/guidelines/>

The foundation awards grants to nonprofits in communities where the company operates. Funding is awarded in four priority areas: Arts and Culture; Education; Family Life; and Health and Nutrition. The Foundation supports programs that work to strengthen families and promote a safe, nurturing environment for children and youth. Violence prevention initiatives will be favored. Applications are available online or at the Massachusetts General Mills company: Yoplait-Colombo, 35 Danton Drive, Methuen, MA 01844 or by contacting Reatha Clark King, president and executive director, General Mills Foundation, P.O. Box 1113, Minneapolis, MN 55440; 612-764-7891.

Application Deadline: None

Eligibility Requirements: When evaluating requests, the General Mills Foundation will favor organizations whose:

- Mission is closely related to the Foundation's priorities.
- Programs focus on the needs of families, children, and youth.
- Services are direct and of high quality.
- Programs or activities are based in communities with General Mills facilities and employees.
- Programs or activities involve General Mills employees and retirees.

Maximum Amount: Grants range from \$1,000 to \$100,000.

Research and Statistics

"Crime in the United States, 1999" The 1999 murder rate was at the lowest level since 1966, the overall crime rate is at a 26-year low, and the violent-crime rate is down to its lowest point in over two decades. The FBI reports there were 14 million arrests for all criminal offenses in 1999, excluding traffic violations. Violations for drug abuse and driving under the influence, totaling more than 1.5 million each, accounted for the most arrests. <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/99cius.htm>

"College Crime Statistics" U.S. colleges and universities are now required to publicize their campus crime statistics and failure to report may result in fines of \$25,000 for each unreported crime. The crime records from 6,700 U.S. colleges and universities will be posted on the Department of Education's web site <http://www.ope.ed.gov/security>.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2000/10/19/national/19CRIM.html>

"Indicators of School Crime and Safety, 2000" Between 1992 and 1998, violent victimization rates at schools dropped from 48 crimes per 1,000 students to 43 per 1,000. During 1998, students aged 12 through 18 were victims of more than 2.7 million crimes at school, including about 253,000 serious violent crimes (rape, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault). There were 60 violent deaths at school between July 1, 1997 and June 30, 1998, including 47 homicides.
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/iscs00.pdf>

"Safe School Initiative: An Interim Report on the Prevention of Targeted Violence in Schools" The U.S. Secret Service examined 37 U.S. school-shooting cases, determining that students who came to school with a scheme to kill didn't simply "snap." Instead, they told peers and left clues that could have been used to prevent the shootings. The report found that in most school shootings, the warning signs were clearly evident, especially to fellow students. For instance, in one case, the student told 24 classmates and friends of his interest in killing other students and making bombs. In another case, rumors of a planned shooting attracted a crowd of onlookers to a school hallway before the student opened fire. The report focused on behavior and motives, rather than building a profile of an attacker based on a set of personality traits.
<http://www.treas.gov/usss/index.htm?ntac.htm&1>

"Juvenile Court Placement of Adjudicated Youth, 1988-1997" In 1997, 28% of adjudicated delinquency cases resulted in a judicial disposition of out-of-home placement (residential treatment center, juvenile corrections facility, foster home, or group home). Fifty-five percent resulted in an order of probation, 13% resulted in some other disposition such as restitution, fines, community service, or referral to other treatment facilities, and 4% were released at disposition without sanction.
<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/fs200015.pdf>

"Offenders in Juvenile Court, 1997" In 1997, juvenile courts processed almost 1.8 million delinquency cases, an increase of 48% from 1988. In approximately 6 out of 10 petitioned cases, the court adjudicated the youth delinquent. Youth were transferred to criminal court in 1% of formally handled cases. Juveniles ages 15 and older comprised 63% of the delinquency caseload. Offenses against the person accounted for 22% of delinquency cases. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/181204.pdf>

"Schoolyard Hustlers' New Drug: Ritalin" Ritalin is becoming one of the top-selling drugs at schools throughout the country, with thousands of students using it to get high. Ritalin now makes the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA's) Top 10 list of illegally diverted prescription drugs. According to authorities, school children are popping, snorting, dissolving, and injecting Ritalin. One national study found that only 3 percent of high school students reported illicit Ritalin use in the last year. Another found the number was as high as 7 percent. At the same time, a DEA study of Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Indiana found that about 30 to 50 percent of teens in drug-treatment centers said they had used methylphenidate to get high, although not as their primary drug of abuse. <http://www.csmonitor.com/durable/2000/10/31/fp1s4-csm.shtml>

"Urban, Suburban, and Rural Victimization, 1993-98" This report examines the extent of criminal victimization in urban, suburban, and rural areas using 1993 to 1998 National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) data. The average annual 1993-98 violent crime rate in urban areas was about 74% higher than the rural rate, and 37% higher than the suburban rate. Urban males experienced violent victimization at rates 64% higher than the average combined suburban and rural male rate and 47% higher than urban females. Although most violent crimes in urban (60%), suburban (68%), and rural (70%) areas were committed without a weapon, firearm usage in the commission of a violent crime was higher in urban areas when compared to suburban or rural areas (12% urban versus 9% suburban and 8% rural). Urban violent crime victims (53%) were more likely than suburban (47%) or rural (34%) crime victims to be victimized by a stranger. <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/usrv98.pdf>

"Victim Impact Panels: Who Is Sentenced To Attend? Does Attendance Affect Recidivism of First-Time DWI Offenders?" The effect that victim-impact panels have on impaired drivers remains inconclusive. One study found that of impaired drivers arrested for the first time, an estimated 20 to 28 percent will repeat their offense. Various other studies show that victim-impact panels reduced repeat offenses by as little as 10 percent to as much as 65 percent.
<http://abcnews.go.com/sections/living/DailyNews/victimimpactpanels001011.html>

"Drug Intelligence Brief: The Hallucinogen PMA: Dancing With Death" PMA is an illicit, synthetic hallucinogen that has stimulant effects similar to MDMA (Ecstasy), but is more toxic. From 1974 to early 2000, no deaths attributed to PMA were reported in the U.S. Since May 2000, 10 deaths were linked with PMA ingestion. <http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/pubs/intel/20025intellbrief.pdf>

"1999 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report" (INCSR) The INCSR provides narcotics certification determinations for major drug-producing and/or drug-transit countries. The most significant change in 1999, was the steady decline in the Andean coca crop, which is the source of all the cocaine destined for the United States. Coca cultivation in Peru and Bolivia was at its lowest point since 1986. However, coca cultivation in Colombia increased by 20%. In the United States, 1,916 methamphetamine

laboratories were seized by the Drug Enforcement Administration, and state and local authorities seized another 1,984 laboratories.
http://www.state.gov/www/global/narcotics_law/1999_narc_report/index.html

Resources

"National Institute of Justice Standard for Ballistic Resistance of Personal Body Armor" This NIJ Standard establishes minimum performance requirements and test methods for the ballistic resistance of personal body armor designed to protect the torso against gunfire. It reviews NIJ body armor classifications, details requirements (i.e., acceptance criteria, workmanship, armor backing material), and discusses test methods (i.e., velocity measurement equipment, wet conditioning, test preparation).
<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/183651.pdf>

"Counting America's Youth: Easy Access to Population Data" The data site enables users to view, print, and download juvenile population estimates according to age, gender, race, and Hispanic ethnicity. <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/ezapop/index.html>

"Involving Youth in Civic Life" This fact sheet describes two activities that enhance civic involvement by youth: Youth Advisory Councils (YAC's) and Youth Town Hall Meetings (YTHM's), offers suggestions to help youth organize YAC's and YTHM's, and provides contact information for organizations that can offer further assistance. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojjdp/yfs00005.pdf>

"Promising Strategies to Reduce Substance Abuse" This report is intended to serve as a guide to communities by identifying the core elements of promising strategies and providing examples of programs that are making a difference locally in responding to substance abuse. Collaborative strategies involving prevention, treatment, and law enforcement comprehensively address substance abuse in various contexts. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojp/183152.pdf>

Contact Information

Please visit the Programs Division web site at: <http://www.state.ma.us/ccj/>

Department of Justice agency web sites:

NCJRS <http://www.ncjrs.org/>
OJP <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/>
BJA <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/>
BJS <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>
OJJDP <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/>
NIJ <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/>

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